

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

WHY MR. HOLTERMANN'S QUESTION AND ITS ANSWER WERE NOT REPORTED.

By W. Z. HUTCHINSON.

In Mr. Holtermann's explanation in the last C.B.J. I see only one thing that calls for any explanation from me, and that is why I did not report his question and Prof. Wiley's answer at the Washington convention regarding the Professor's ability to detect the difference between sugar and floral honey. The reason was that no new thought or idea was brought out in the question and answer. If everything that was said or done at a convention was reported, several numbers of a journal would be used up in reporting it. The reporter must use his judgment as to what is important, and not waste space reporting the same idea twice over. Prof. Wiley had already said in his address that invert sugar was optically inactive at a certain temperature, and he *hoped* (italics mine) that this fact would enable the chemist to detect sugar honey.

Mr. Holtermann is correct in one respect: there was no talk at Washington in regard to sugar and honey mixed and fed to the bees. It was in regard to sugar honey pure and simple, and Prof. Wiley did not say *positively* that he could detect the difference between it and floral honey; he said he *thought* he could. The Professor says in his letter to Mr. Holtermann, published in the last C.B.J., that he did not "say *positively* (italics mine) at the Washington meeting that he could detect this difference." As Mr. Holtermann says, so say I, "this letter from Prof. Wiley should settle this."

Flint, Mich., April, 1893.

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SUCCESSFUL WINTERING.

MR. EDITOR,—I put two colonies of bees in winter quarters in 1892; in 1893 I wintered seven colonies.

Some time about the 1st of March I found my bees getting very noisy. I thought

it was on account of their feeling so well that they wanted to get out; but in reading an article in the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL, I found out that uneasiness of bees was not a good sign. As my bees were in an out cellar, and the weather so much colder than the former year, I thought there must be something wrong. As I could not properly examine my bees in the cellar, I took the most noisy hive into a room and raised the temperature from 90° to 100°. I placed the hive on a stand close to a south window. I soon found out what was wrong with my bees; they had dysentery. I darkened all the other parts of the room, the bees flew out on the window and spotted it up so terribly that it took considerable soap and water to clean it.

After that I then heated up the bee cellar to a temperature of from 60 to 70°. I kept that up for about five weeks. The bees got perfectly quiet and appeared to be all cured of the disease when I set them out on the 5th of April. I gave them all clean bottom-boards and washed all the dead bees and mould from the combs. I did not set them on their summer stands, I put them in a place sheltered from wind and cold.

The bees fly out well on fine days, and have plenty of store left.

I have not seen them gather any pollen yet. Would it be safe to move them to their summer stands when the weather gets warmer?

I saw an article of Mr. Gemmell's in the last issue of the Bee Journal that his bees gathered artificial pollen. Will anyone be kind enough to let me know what artificial pollen is, and how it is given to bees.

THOMAS NESBITT.

Apsley, April 1893.

QUESTION DRAWER.

1. If a queen flies out and meets an inferior drone, will her drones be as pure as herself?

There is a very considerable difference of opinion on this subject. Our opinion, in the meantime, is that they will not.